

when liberty is threatened. The families of the National Guard and Reserve serve our Nation by proudly standing behind these brave men and women, and America appreciates their sacrifice as well.

In all they do, the National Guard and Reserve and their families represent the best of the American spirit.

Our Nation also depends on the commitment of the civilian employers of the members of the National Guard and Reserve. In offices and factories across America, organizations do without the talents of many hard-working people who have been called upon to protect our country. Our Nation's employers provide time off, pay, healthcare benefits, and job security because they care about and love their country. These businesses have put patriotism above profit, and they deserve the gratitude of all Americans.

During National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week, a grateful country pays tribute to the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve, and we express our gratitude to the employers who support them and help enable them to serve.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim September 14 through September 20, 2008, as National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week. I encourage all Americans to join me in expressing our thanks to members of our National Guard and Reserve and their civilian employers for their patriotism and sacrifices on behalf of our Nation. I also call upon State and local officials, private organizations, businesses, and all military commanders to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., September 16, 2008]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on September 17.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

September 6

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

September 7

The President declared an emergency in Florida and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local response efforts due to the emergency conditions resulting from Hurricane Ike beginning on September 5 and continuing.

September 8

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President made additional disaster assistance available to Iowa by authorizing an increase in the level of Federal funding for public assistance projects undertaken as a result of severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding that occurred from May 25 to August 13.

September 9

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Asif Ali Zardari of Pakistan to congratulate him on his election victory and discuss Pakistan-U.S. relations. Later, he had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, at the Department of the Interior, the President had lunch with Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne and met with Interior Department employees. He then visited Walter Reed Army Medical Center where he met with wounded military personnel and their families.

The President declared a major disaster in Maine and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, and tornadoes from July 18 to August 16.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jerry Gayle Bridges to be Inspector

General of the Department of Education and designate him as Acting.

The President announced his intention to nominate Sean T. Connaughton to be Commissioner of the Federal Maritime Commission and, upon appointment, designate him as Chairman.

The President announced his intention to nominate Pamela A. Redfield to be a member of the National Museum and Library Services Board.

The President announced his intention to appoint David Longly Bernhardt as U.S. Commissioner of the International Boundary Commission (United States and Canada).

September 10

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Oval Office, he participated in a photo opportunity with the Big Sister of the Year, Miriam Mills.

The President declared an emergency in Texas and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local response efforts due to the emergency conditions resulting from Hurricane Ike beginning on September 7 and continuing.

The President declared a major disaster in Alabama and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Hurricane Gustav beginning on August 29 and continuing.

September 11

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Then, at 8:46 a.m., on the South Lawn, he and Mrs. Bush participated in a moment of silence to commemorate the seventh anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Later, they traveled to Arlington, VA.

Later in the morning, the President and Mrs. Bush returned to Washington, DC.

During the day, in the Situation Room, the President participated in a briefing on Hurricane Ike. He also had a video teleconference with Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff to discuss Hurricane Ike.

The President declared an emergency in Louisiana and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local response efforts due to the emergency conditions resulting from

Hurricane Ike beginning on September 7 and continuing.

September 12

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. He then had separate telephone conversations with Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff and Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator R. David Paulison to discuss Hurricane Ike. Later, he traveled to Tinker Air Force Base, OK, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteers Karen Stark and Maj. Dan Rooney, USAF, Oklahoma Air National Guard.

Later in the morning, the President met with Capt. Joe Castleberry, incident commander, Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office, who assisted with Hurricane Gustav recovery efforts in Louisiana. He then traveled to Oklahoma City, OK. Later, at a private residence, he attended a McCain for President and Republican National Committee Victory reception.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The White House announced that the President and Mrs. Bush will travel to New York City, NY, to participate in the 63d United Nations General Assembly on September 22–24.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Prime Minister Nasir al-Muhammad al-Ahmad al-Sabah of Kuwait to the White House on September 19.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Michel Sleiman of Lebanon to the White House on September 25.

The White House announced that the President will meet with President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan at the White House on September 26.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Valdas Adamkus of Lithuania to the White House on September 29.

The White House announced that the President and Mrs. Bush will welcome Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy to the White House on October 13.

The President announced his intention to nominate the following individuals to be

members of the National Science Board: Barry C. Barish; Ray M. Bowen; France A. Cordova; Esin Gulari; G.P. "Bud" Peterson; Douglas D. Randall; and Diane L. Souvaine.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jay T. Snyder to be a member of the U.S. Advisory Committee on Public Diplomacy.

The President announced his intention to nominate Edwin Eck and William E. Grayson to be members of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board.

The President announced his intention to accord the personal rank of Ambassador to Harlan L. Watson during his tenure as Special Envoy to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The President declared a major disaster in Vermont and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding from July 21 to August 12.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted September 8

Douglas J. Besharov,
of Maryland, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2011, vice Richard James Milgram, term expired.

Elizabeth Ann Bryan,
of Texas, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2012 (reappointment).

James X. Dempsey,
of California, to be a member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board for a term of 5 years expiring January 29, 2013 (new position).

Robert B. Eley,
of Mississippi, to be a member of the Mississippi River Commission for a term of 9 years, vice Sam Epstein Angel, term expiring.

Lynn S. Fuchs,
of Tennessee, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2012, vice Joseph K. Torgesen, term expiring.

Robert C. Granger,
of New Jersey, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2012 (reappointment).

Dave Heineman,
of Nebraska, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation for a term expiring December 10, 2011, vice Mel Carnahan.

Caroline M. Hoxby,
of Massachusetts, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2012 (reappointment).

Paul E. Peterson,
of Massachusetts, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2011, vice Herbert John Walberg, term expired.

John L. Winn,
of Florida, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2012, vice Gerald Lee, term expiring.

Patrick J. Wolf,
of Arkansas, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring March 15, 2012, vice Craig T. Ramey, term expired.

Michael Young,
of Pennsylvania, to be a member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission for a term of 6 years expiring August 30, 2014 (reappointment).